

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Appreciation is expressed to Examiner Heller for the indication that Claims 4-7 and 10-14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. By way of the forgoing amendments, Claims 1 and 3-14 have been canceled, and new independent Claims 19-27 are presented for consideration. New independent Claim 19 sets forth the subject matter previously recited in Claims 1 and 4, new independent Claim 20 recites the subject matter previously set forth in Claims 1 and 5, new independent Claim 21 sets forth the subject matter previously set forth in Claims 1 and 6, new independent Claim 22 recites the subject matter set forth previously in Claims 1 and 7, new independent Claim 23 recites the subject matter previously recited in Claims 1 and 10, new independent Claim 24 recites the subject matter set forth previously in Claims 1 and 11, new independent Claim 25 recites the subject matter previously set forth in Claims 1 and 12, new independent Claim 26 sets forth the subject matter previously recited in Claims 1 and 13, and new independent Claim 27 recites the subject matter set forth previously in Claims 1 and 14. Also, the dependency of various dependent claims has been changed.

New Claims 19-27 presented here have been worded to address the issues raised on page two and the top half of page three of the Official Action. In particular, features of the blood pump system originally recited using the term "function" are now set forth in means plus function language to define the same subject matter set forth in the original claim wording.

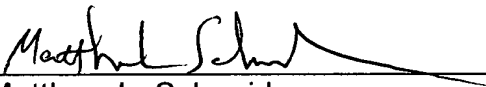
It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: July 18, 2006

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